

## The Angel of Purgatory.

HOW MANY SWEET REMINISCENCES THIS TITLE  
RECALLS TO A CHRISTIAN MIND.

### HOLY WATER.

A GREAT RESOURCE FOR THE  
POOR SOULS.

The use of Holy Water, accompanied by faith and confidence, procures wonderful effects to body and soul; and is very beneficial for the souls in Purgatory. Whenever a priest blesses the water, he does it as a substitute, and in the name of the Church, whose prayer the Divine Savior readily deigns to hear; for whomsoever the Holy Church may pray.

Hence, whenever we take Holy Water, and with but one drop of same bless ourselves, or any other object, present or absent, the prayer of the Church from anew penetrates the clouds, finds its way to the foot-stool of God, and obtains graces and blessing for body and soul, for every object that is touched by the Blessed Water. It also lays low the power of the evil spirits, whence the saying: "He fears this or that, as satan does Holy Water." Millions of facts can be adduced to show and prove the great and dreadful fear satan harbors for Holy Water.

But how does it come, that we also can bless distant persons, and the poor souls with Holy Water, so it may prove salutary to them? The solution of the question is evident from what has been said. For, as often as we give Holy Water to an absent child, or brother, the prayer of the Church ascends to the Divine Heart, and induces It to protect our relatives bodily and spiritually. Similarly God is moved in behalf of the poor souls, when Holy Water is used with that intention. O, the great alleviation one drop of Holy Water calls forth for a suffering soul!

The venerable Dominicus a Jesu had,

as it was customary with the Carmelite Order, the skull of a dead upon his table. It came to pass, that as the Father Dominicus sprinkled it with Holy Water, it addressed him, and exclaimed most piteously: "More Holy Water," for it had greatly lessened the violent heat of the tremendously painful fires of Purgatory.

One drop of Holy Water certainly has more power and a greater effect, than a long prayer. Our prayer is very often lukewarm and distracted, whereas the prayer of the Church is always without defects. It is pleasing to the Divine Savior at every moment, at all places, and when and where and by whom it may be said in the name of His Holy Church.

Hence the great desire of the poor souls for Holy Water. If we could witness their languish and prayers for but one drop of Blessed Water, undoubtedly every Christian soul would endeavor to use Holy Water morning and evening, and frequently during day for their relief.

How often do we not pass in and out the door, to whose side piety attached a Holy Water font? What pains does it take to permit a drop of Holy Water to fall from our finger to diminish or extinguish the fires of Purgatory?

What great joy do we thereby cause to the souls in Purgatory! What great benefits do we draw from such an act of charity! The poor souls are grateful to their benefactors; the very moment we remember them by such a salutary act, they raise their hands to heaven, and pray so fervently for their intercessors, as the most saintly persons on earth can not do. God gives a willing ear to their prayers, as to the prayers of His pure spouses, and showers abundant graces upon their friends on earth.

From a soul in which the Holy Ghost dwells, as from a vine when in bloom a sweet scent arises.